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Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 PA-01
NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PM-05 /069 W
----------121840 060511Z /14
R 051204Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9992
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY DACCA
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 06766

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: BG, AS, UR
SUBJECT: BANGLADESH MILITARY ATTACHE IN MOSCOW REQUESTS ASYLUM IN AUSTRALIA

1. AUSTRALIAN EMBOFF INFORMS THAT A BANGLADESH MILITARY ATTACHE IN MOSCOW, M. RAHMAN, REQUESTED POLITICAL ASYLUM IN AUSTRALIA LAST WEEK. RAHMAN CLAIMED HE FEARED REPRISALS FROM BDG SHOULD HE RETURN TO DACCA. AUSTRALIAN SOURCE STATED CANBERRA INSTRUCTED AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY HERE TO TURN DOWN ASYLUM REQUEST BUT TO OFFER RAHMAN OPPORTUNITY TO FILE ROUTINE IMMIGRATION REQUEST THAT WOULD BE CONSIDERED "EXPEDITIOUSLY" BUT WOULD BE GIVEN NO SPECIAL PREFERENCE OVER OTHER APPLICATIONS. RAHMAN FILED IMMIGRATION FORMS ON BEHALF OF HIMSELF AND
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HIS FAMILY MARCH 31 AND IS AWAITING A RESPONSE FROM CANBERRA.

2. AUSTRALIAN SOURCE STATED AUSTRALIA HAS ALSO REJECTED REQUEST FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM BY "CLERK" AT BD HIGH COMMISSION IN CANBERRA. "CLERK" CLAIMS HE AND SEVERAL OTHERS LIKE HIM STATIONED ABROAD AT BANGLADESHI DIPLD-

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MATIC MISSIONS COULD SUFFER SAME FATE AS A COLLEAGUE STATIONED IN BAGHDAD WHO WAS SHOT AND KILLED IN DACCA BY PRO-ZIA FORCES DURING OCT. 2, 1977 COUP ATTEMPT.

3. AUSTRALIAN SOURCE SAYS BDG AND BANGLADESHI HIGH COMMISSION IN CANBERRA ARE TELLING ENTIRELY DIFFERENT STORY AND POSSIBILITY EXISTS REQUESTS FOR ASYLUM ARE MERELY AN EXCUSE FOR IMMIGRATING TO AUSTRALIA. SOURCE HOLDS THAT CASE HAS SURFACED NO EVIDENCE OF A POSSIBLE "SOVIET CONNECTION" WITH THE OCT. 2, 1977 COUP ATTEMPT OR WITH RAHMAN HIMSELF. SOURCE STATED AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER IN DACCA BRIEFED A BANGLADESHI MFA ADDITIONAL SECRETARY ON CANBERRA'S DECISION TO REJECT POLITICAL ASYLUM. ADDITIONAL SECRETARY EXPRESSED APPRECIATION THAT CASE HAS NOT BEEN ALLOWED TO "CLOUD" AUSTRALIAN-BANGLADESHI RELATIONS.

4. WE HAVE HEARD THAT SOME OF THE ABOVE HAS ALREADY BEEN CARRIED IN THE AUSTRALIAN PRESS AND THAT AP IS TRYING TO TRACK DOWN THE STORY HERE. TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL ASYLUM, MILITARY ATTACHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MOSCOW06766
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780148-0239
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780490/aaaacynn.tel
Line Count: 83
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 840deeb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3069249
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BANGLADESH MILITARY ATTACHE IN MOSCOW REQUESTS ASYLUM IN AUSTRALIA
TAGS: MILI, PEPR, BG, AS, UR, (RAHMAN, M)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/840deeb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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